

THE OUTCROPP

Devoted to the Mining and Development of the Windermere and Golden Divisions of the District of North East Kootenay.

Vol. I., No. 83.

Canterbury, B. C., Thursday, November 8, 1900.

\$3.00 Per Year.

A SERIOUS ACCIDENT

A. Symons Seriously Injured at the Silver Belt.

On Saturday evening Andy Symons, foreman at the Silver Belt group, Spring creek, met with a very painful and what was almost a fatal accident.

It appears that he was working in the shaft with Doc Williamson and at the depth of 12 feet the ore body dipped a little to the south and they dove in a few feet preparatory to putting in the bars. The ground here is very loose and considerably mixed with earth. Symons was picking away and Williamson shoveling into the bucket, when Symons felt the earth falling and made a step to get out, but about three feet of the earth and rock fell on him knocking him down with his right foot under his left side. He was completely buried, but the loose earth allowed him a little air and for a minute he could breathe but he soon felt his breath getting shorter and shorter. He says he shouted as loud as he could, although the men did not hear him, and could hear the men above asking where he was and digging away the earth, but he did not lose consciousness before they uncovered him, although he felt every second that he was going fast. The men soon got him out into the shaft when he was lying on his back, looking almost dead. When they got him out he was in great pain, the toes of his right foot being dislocated and a considerable amount of his ribs cracked. A horse was at once sent and he was taken to the house of Jeff Davis, on the road to where the men are building the Toby creek agency road and there he was put in a lumber wagon. He says the riding was painful but the wagon was awful. At the end of the road near Peterborough he again got on his horse and rode to Canterbury and crashed into his home on his hands and knees, telling his wife that he had been hurt a little. In a few minutes Dr. Lindert arrived and bound up the injured parts and now he is resting quite comfortably. He had remained under the ground a few minutes longer the second fall of ground would have proved fatal.

Golden Nuggets

(From Our Own Correspondent)

H. Killen and wife were in town Monday last.

L. U. Garrett of Canterbury, agent a couple of days here before proceeding to the coast.

Messrs. John Henderson and McMillan have returned from a two weeks hunt in the mountains.

Mr. E. A. Hagen spent a day in town this week. He reports two to three feet of snow out on Canyon creek.

The members of St. Paul's church held a reception to their new pastor and his family in Columbia Hall on Thursday evening last. A large number of the people of Golden were present upon the occasion and a very pleasant evening's entertainment was the result.

Sunday Oct. 28th was observed by the members of St. Paul's as a harvest thanksgiving Sunday, when special services were held outside for the occasion. The church service was very satisfactory and was decorated with the produce of the farm and garden which indicated in some measure the bountiful harvest we have enjoyed.

WAR NEWS.

The London Daily Mail's Petersburg correspondent telegraphs on October 6:

"Returning thanks for the sword of honor presented to him, the emperor declared that he was a proud defender of his country. He said that he did not believe that any general had ever faced a situation so difficult as that which con-

fronted him when he disembarked at Capetown without an army and with no hope for one for another seven weeks or longer.

"I found Mackenzie and Kimberley beleaguered," he continued, "and the two main avenues across the Free State, Bechuanaland Bridge and Natal, Pont, in the hands of the enemy with Ladysmith surrounded. I had waited for the army and then advanced on Bloemfontein. It would have been at least twelve weeks before I could have exerted any influence on the situation. In that time the Boers would have overrun and occupied Natal, and what would have been the effect of that on Europe and the British people?"

General Buller then proceeded to make the interesting announcement that Sir Evelyn Wood had wired asking to be allowed to come out to serve under him. He said he was never so tempted in his life to take a man at his word, for he had begun to look upon Natal as a forlorn hope, but it would have been cowardly to have said to Sir Evelyn come to take the risk.

"I know that if I failed to release Ladysmith," he exclaimed, "I should lose the peace commission. I lost it, and rightly, I think, but I had taken on the task and was bound to see it through to a conclusion."

"Sir Redvers paid the highest compliments to the loyalty and gallantry of his troops under the tremendous strain. He believed, such as no soldier in the history of the world had ever to undergo."

WINDERMERE LADIES

Give a Successful Entertainment

Communicated:

The entertainment given by the Ladies of Windermere was in every sense an enjoyable and successful affair. There was a good attendance, many being present from Peterboro, Athol, and Canterbury.

When the ladies are so very entertaining at any time, so that when they announced that the ladies—ladies only—would furnish an evening's entertainment it was an acknowledged fact that something good could be expected. But the most sanguine hope was put in the shade when the performance commenced, as the casual observer could readily believe with a glance at the following program:

Chorus, "Candy's Tantalus"; Solo, "Hush My Little Lamb"; Mrs. Pitt Instrumental; Miss Hart Instrumental; Miss Hart Solo, "My Lady Lay"; Miss Larch Solo, "Beloved Sign";

Mrs. Pitt and Miss Larch Chorus, "Break the News to Mother";

Recitation, "The Little Girl"; Mrs. Larch Solo, "Mama's Little Girl";

Mrs. Pitt Instrumental; Mrs. Hart Solo, "You Can't Play in My Back Yard";

Mrs. Pitt and Miss Larch Solo, "My Old New Hampshire Home";

Mrs. Pitt Instrumental; Mrs. Hart Instrumental; Mrs. Larch Solo, "The Little Girl";

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Ledge Croppings

Happenings of Interest Among the Treasure Vaults.

There is now 63 tons of ore sacked at the Paradise on Toby creek, and 2000 sacks have been ravelled down into the timber. There are now 20 men employed at the mine and Manager R. Randolph Bruce expresses himself as highly pleased with the way the work is progressing. Another feature that will make the owners wear broad smiles, reported as we go to press, is that in the upper workings where the ore was last for sometime, has again been found, and it is now claimed by some that this ledge is proved to be in a direct line with the Silver Belt mine. This naturally makes the Silver Belt stockholder jubilant. The Paradise can now claim to be something more than a mere prospect for it is now a paying mine. The property of the Paradise this winter will have the effect of making this a very prosperous camp next season.

Mr. Dwyer is leaving his Atholrick blackish clay lined and otherwise improved.

The Horse Thief trail has not been fully completed and it is not likely that it will be this fall. Messrs. should have been attending court. It would be difficult to recall the number of times these gentlemen and others have returned from attending this trial.

P. A. Mulholland will leave on Tuesday's stage for Fort Steele en route for his home in Toronto, where he will remain until next March, when he will return to Canterbury with his wife and family.

It has been decided that all the stock of this district will gather at Hotel Canterbury St. Andrew's evening for a grand dinner. Mr. H. G. Gordon is making every preparation and has ordered the necessary baggage from Montreal.

Real estate in this district has begun to move and prices are advancing a little. The townsite owners are somewhat reserved but nevertheless quite a few lots have been sold. In Canterbury alone 21 lots were sold in the month of October, of which over two-thirds were full cash payments. Quite a boom is expected next spring and a number of lots will be sold through the winter.

The Ontario has made arrangements with the Toronto Globe whereby we are enabled to offer the Weekly Globe, and the Ontario for 1901 for the sum of our subscription, \$3.00. Besides the two papers the Globe has secured the sole privilege of publishing a painting of "The Canadians at the Battle of Paardeberg," which will also be sent. This picture is worth, at least 50 cents. The Weekly Globe \$1.00, and the Ontario \$2.00. We offer the whole for \$3.00 to subscribers paying in advance. The picture can be seen at this office.

When Messrs. McBurnett, Knowlton and Foster returned to Canterbury on the Selkirk Thursday last after spending a day and a half at the head of the lake day shooting, both sides and the end of the railing around the "steamer's" cabin were thickly strewn with duck. The Ontario landed the boat and counted 122 duck and four geese. This is the best shooting we have heard of the season and we are not alone that the gentlemen and the boat's crew are in the neighborhood of 30 duck; 152 duck for three men is a string which most any man might well be proud of and we have no doubt but that among the many other attractions for tourists to this district, game will soon be one of the most important.

Local Outcrops.

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If you don't get the Ontario regular let us know about it once.

The Ontario and Labor Gazette for one year only \$3.00.

A post office money order office should be established at Atholrick.

Change your ad often but let it arrive at this office not later than Monday.

Mrs. W. P. Evans and Master George and Charles arrived in Canterbury from Toronto Monday.

Joe Lake & Co. have received a large consignment of general merchandise at their Atholrick store.

Mrs. Durick arrived in Windermere from Fort Steele on Sunday's stage and will spend ten days visiting with Mr. E. A. Kimpton.

Mr. John Ballman has been in charge of the Recording Office since the late, viz. Mr. G. G. Goble, who leaves for Fort Steele next stage.

E. A. Bloom, of Fort Steele, spent several days last week in the office of the townsite of this valley representing the New Life Insurance Co.

Mr. G. Parsons will have something of special interest to say about canal work in our next issue. He changed his mind just now and is unable to give any of the results.

Yesterday was election day all over the Dominion, but for a few contingents. As our telegraph is not in shape just now we are unable to give any of the results.

Considerable work has been done on the La Levee and Levee project, which was started last week. A tunnel of 50 feet has been run on the La Levee and about the same on the Levee.

Regina vs. Chin Sing. The accused was charged with stealing from another Chinaman the sum of \$50 and two items of value valued at \$50, upon which charge he was found guilty and sentenced to six months imprisonment.

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A Lesson in Economics.

The existence of the unemployed is so common and familiar as to excite little or no interest, yet it is one of the most remarkable economic phenomena. That there should be people willing to produce the wealth that all desire but denied the opportunity, that men should suffer because there are too many hands willing to produce the things they want, is certainly remarkable. The paradoxical and unnecessary nature of the evil has naturally prompted many schemes and plans for betterment. It is not only when men are crowding the street and moving about in search of employment that there is an unemployed class. There is lack of employment when men have not an opportunity to work to their fullest capacity. If men are confined to employments in which their greatest productive capacity cannot find scope, they are to a certain extent unemployed. It is not only when men are crowded the street and moving about in search of employment that there is an unemployed class. There is lack of employment when men have not an opportunity to work to their fullest capacity. If men are confined to employments in which their greatest productive capacity cannot find scope, they are to a certain extent unemployed. It is not only when men are crowded the street and moving about in search of employment that there is an unemployed class. There is lack of employment when men have not an opportunity to work to their fullest capacity. If men are confined to employments in which their greatest productive capacity cannot find scope, they are to a certain extent unemployed.

Church Opening

The New English church at Windermere was formally opened on Sunday last by Rev. Mr. Yates, who drove in the Gold. Communion was given to the congregation. In the morning there was a grand service, many being present from the various towns in the vicinity. Before starting the service the reverend gentleman took occasion to compliment the congregation upon their worthy efforts in building, so that and have a service for worship and spoke briefly upon the beautiful location and the hope he hoped would result from the efforts put forth. He said that the church which was appointed over extended from Field to Roger's Pass on the C. P. R. and the valley to Windermere, and as he was obliged to hold services in Golden four Sundays in each month he could only come to this district when there were five Sundays in the month unless he held services on week days. But was pleased to say that Mr. A. E. St. Geo. Smith had been appointed layman. By the way, the church service would be held each Sunday evening and asked the congregation to attend regularly that Mr. Smith might be encouraged in his good work. After the service a communion service was held.

The attendance at the evening service was much larger than in the morning service. A collection was taken for the purpose of purchasing a bell.

Mr. Yates visited Atholrick, Peterborough and Canterbury Tuesday and Wednesday. In conversation with Mr. Yates said that he had never met so many kind people and in so many places as he had met in this district.

He made special mention of the kindness shown to his family on their arrival at Golden from New Denver. He recognized the possibilities of a great future for this valley and is encouraged with the grand scenery.

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COUNTY COURT

The Freak Has at Last Ended

On Thursday last the freak court gave way and the oft postponed County Court was finally opened, when Judge Fortin gave judgment in the following cases and although Chequamegon correspondence is not the report we must acknowledge that it is very similar to the facts:

Hart vs. Starbird & Collett. The claim was made by plaintiffs for some \$502 for backing to the Red Line mine. The defendants satisfied by payment on account of this work the sum of \$200. The point in dispute was as to the balance, was whether plaintiff should receive 2 cents or 3 cents per pound for picking from Peterboro.

It was charged that a contract to be his particular work had been entered into whereby the plaintiff should receive 2 cents. Mr. Starbird, however, once plaintiff had picked his property, he was supposed to be picking to the mine he was getting but 2 cents. Judgment was given for plaintiff for \$20, with costs for defence.

The Park Ranch Company vs. McBurnett Company. The first suit for the price of two acres sold to defendants through their agent, George Harvey, was dismissed on the ground that the defendants had not been in possession of the land, and in summing up the judge said he did not believe the evidence of some of the witnesses, but the plaintiff had proved that a contract to sell had been made and judgment was given for plaintiff against defendant with costs.

Thomas H. Parr vs. Golden & Fort Steele Development Company. This case stands over for consent of counsel.

Regina vs. Frank Fields. The defendant was charged with having on July 21 last, damaged a building in Field, the property of one W. H. Chong. The only evidence the prosecution had was that the defendant and his wife were in the building at the time it was damaged. The defendant was charged with having on July 21 last, damaged a building in Field, the property of one W. H. Chong. The only evidence the prosecution had was that the defendant and his wife were in the building at the time it was damaged. The defendant was charged with having on July 21 last, damaged a building in Field, the property of one W. H. Chong. The only evidence the prosecution had was that the defendant and his wife were in the building at the time it was damaged.

Regina vs. J. Timmins. This was a similar case to that of the above, as Mr. O'Brien on behalf of the Crown withdrew the prosecution.

M. Dainard vs. Thomas O'Brien and W. C. Wells. Plaintiff claimed rent for rooming in building known as the Crown building, opposite Columbia House, under an agreement made with defendant O'Brien, acting for W. C. Wells. The defence was that O'Brien had taken the building from Wells and was not the owner of the premises in question. His action amounted to a claim. It was also alleged by defendant that plaintiff had by action in giving possession of the premises to one Frank Barnett, rendered same of no value to defendant. Action dismissed with costs to defendant.

C. W. Field vs. J. Lamotte. This was the last case on the list. The plaintiff claimed the sum of \$125 under an agreement which had been signed by plaintiff and defendant, which provided that the group of people received from the sale of a block of Mountain goat should be equally divided. The plaintiff swore that he had offered to take the goat to London and pay all his own expenses. The defendant admitted his signature to the agreement but claimed the word goat had never been used at the time it was drawn up and after terms of sale had been agreed upon, and charged that it was not in through fraud. His Honor summed up the evidence at considerable length and stated that, in his opinion, the word goat had not been used at the time it was drawn up and charged that it was not in through fraud. His Honor summed up the evidence at considerable length and stated that, in his opinion, the word goat had not been used at the time it was drawn up and charged that it was not in through fraud.

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Published every Thursday.
W. P. EVANS, Editor and Publisher.

A Weekly Journal published every Thursday in the interests of North East Kootenay District serving close connection with all that's new and interesting in the district.

Subscription Rates: \$2.00 per year in advance; foreign countries \$3.00.

Advertising Rates: Display Ads, \$2.00 per column inch per month; News Items, 10c per line; legal and local ads 25 cents per line first insertion and 15 cents for each subsequent insertion.

Changes of advertisements must be in this office not later than Sunday.

Birth, marriage and death notices inserted free.

FOR DEPARTMENT: Our Job Department is the best equipped printing office in East Kootenay and is prepared to do most of the printing at a reasonable price. One price for all orders received prompt attention.

CORRESPONDENTS: We invite correspondence on any subject of interest to the general public and desire a regular correspondent at every point in the district. In all cases the bona fide name of writer must accompany the material, not necessarily for publication as a guarantee of good faith.

Correspondence with reference to any matter that has appeared in another paper must first be offered to that paper for publication before it can appear in this office.

A. Address all communications

THE OUTCROP,
CANTERBURY,

North East Kootenay, B. C.

THURSDAY, NOV. 8, 1900.

Fort Steele Prospector!—If the same amount of interest could be awakened in the mines of South East Kootenay, as is being manifested in the Windermere country there would be different conditions existing. For some reason the Windermere district is attracting more capital and is generously being exploited more assiduously than any other section of East Kootenay.

The Prospector is quite right and we of this district have every reason to believe that the interest will be manifested a thousand fold next season. The people of this section have every reason to be enterprising for we have as big and rich indications of mineral and as magnificent an agricultural country as there is in this Province.

The Outcrop takes a little credit for this interest but we have to give much credit to our many friends among the prospectors and mining men, who have assisted us in giving reliable news of the district. But at the same time we would urge upon our friends the necessity of not allowing the interest to wane, but let us know by some means every strike that is made so that we may keep our resources prominently before the outside world. It would also assist materially if we could get the names of more mining men who will likely be interested here next season.

Ever since the first talk of the Dominion election the big dailies have been filled with the wonders that have been accomplished in the Post Office Department. The penny postage has been handed to the skies and Mr. Mullock patted on the back until he must be sore. This is all right in the cities where a few hold good jobs and for election talk, but in small towns it is different. Let us take the Atholmer post office for example. Mr. Lake has two days work a week, although it is distributed over the entire week. For this work he got the enormous sum of \$19 a year. But since the election have in sight his salary has been increased by

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one-half. Just how he will squander this \$15 annually is more than we can comprehend. Of course he and all his friends will vote for the party—so generous. However, we must not kick just now for we want two mails a week. The postmaster then will have to work a little more, but then a government job is just a lovely position. Everybody worships when the mail arrives and calls just as it departs to post their letters.

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East Kootenay.

The Blackguard

A Trail Blazer Story of Life in This Valley.

CHAPTER I.

"Think of your sins, What made you a soldier serving the Queen?"

God save the Queen, And God save the differ who thinks of to-morrow.

God save the man who remembers his sorrow, God save the man who can think of the past.

Sundown at last: Here's rest for the past, and here's hope for the morrow."

That is exactly what the bogle said to a man who was sitting on the edge of the bench-land in the evening calm. He was a very big man, dressed in a grey woolen undershirt, with no shirt or breeches with a two-inch yellow stripe down the leg and a jack-boots. By his side lay a broad grey slouch hat, such as cowboys wear; on his knees a bath-towel—dry; and in his neighborhood lingered a faint aroma of stables. The man's bare arms were like the thighs of an average sinner, his shoulders, thighs, breast, neck, all of gigantic strength and beauty, a sight that would have appealed to any athlete as beyond the loveliness of women.

The setting sun just touched his wavy, crisp, black hair with a tinge of metal. Again, his face, still, strong, silent, had an odd suggestiveness of a bronze statue, that of something Greek but uneasy, a faun, perhaps, or a satyr. The hair, sweeping low over his brows, might almost conceal incipient temples; his ears might have been tufted; his features defying all the rules, the whole devilry of his deep, black eyes, the ugly fascination and the whimsical dignity of the bearing lofty, defiant, almost magnificent; and again, an air, including enough, of sorrowful mystery—how was everything about the man fitted one another—the Blackguard.

That was La Mancha's name, by consent of the five troops of the Mounted Police; and it was the common use of it conveyed a sense of reproach but rather of endurance. From the Commissioner down to the smallest recruit the whole 500 were half afraid of him, except one man; yet no civilian ventured to speak ill of the Blackguard, or he would have had his head punched. To say bad things about the Blackguard was to slight the Force.

And the one man who dared fear this latter-day satyr, who ruled him as mind rules matter, was a certain little corporal, who, with a neat bear pipe well alight, was picking his nails away over the gravel—coming down from the camp in the evening calm. This was Corporal Dandy Irvine, with a sunburnt face, a neatly polished moustache, a button of his scarlet jacket glowing like gold in the light, whose clothes always fitted, whose foragecap was correctly poised on three hairs, whose boots and spurs were always brilliantly polished. And now he just touched the Blackguard to show that he was present, and sat down beside him without any remarks whatever. As, for five minutes, the two looked gravely out over the valley like Dignity and Impudence, both too lazy to speak.

They were looking across the Kootenay Valley—the Upper Kootenay—toward a tongue of the bench-land made by the deep gulch of Wild Horse creek where it came down from the mountains. At their backs rose the huge truncated foothills of the Rocky Mountains; opposite, across the vast Kootenay trough, rose the still lighter foothills of the Selkicks, and high above the deepening purple of the forests soared the clear and cool azure of the snows up into the silence of those sharp-cut Alps, reaching away forever and forever to north and south against the remote translucent afterglow. Down under the river wandered crimson through misty prairies, where the trees stood in clusters pointing up, as the sunset stars came one by one to guard.

"Dandy," said the Blackguard without stirring, "lead me five dollars."

Without comment, the little Corporal took from his breast-pocket a slender roll of notes, one of which he surrendered.

"Five dollars." The Blackguard took the crisp paper, staring it out upon his knees. "I was wondering whether there was anybody in the world who cared five dollars for me. Here, take it back—I don't want it."

"Stick to it, Blackguard,—stick to it. You've been fined a month's pay every month since last December; and I guess you'll keep up the note every month all your time's out—stick to it."

"I'll keep up the notion," said the Blackguard sullenly. "I'll get drunk tonight. They line me up because they can't spare me off duty and because they've well proved that there isn't a guard house in the Territories strong enough to hold me over night."

The corporal chuckled. "How about number five cell at Regina?"

"Number five cell be —. It was nine months last time."

"Look here, La Mancha. That nine months sticks in my gizzard. I ought to have been punished, not you."

"Take off your serge." By taking off the serge jacket which bore double chevrons as corporal, Dandy could surrender the protection given by his rank, and become a plain trooper like the Black-

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The Blackguard

A Trail Blazer Story of Life in This Valley.

Board. The summons was a challenge to fight.

"I'll keep on my legs, you're too big, Blackguard," said Dandy.

"Then don't talk rot about number five cell. Here's Pup La Mancha, my brother deserting, and you and me and that fool Peacock overtaking him at Lane's stopping-place. Suppose you let him go, Shifty Lane reports you at headquarters. Suppose you don't let him go, you get my brother, the pup, a year in the cells. Suppose I let him escape and take his place, I get nine months. After all, what is nine months? I shall be blazing drunk tonight, and maybe get it again!"

"Why can't you behave yourself?"

"Why should I, Dandy? Now you've got a mother, who gets a letter from you every week. And you've got a girl, who believes you're a brave saint with a tin halo, which you're not, and who loves you except when she happens to love some other fellow, which is all the same thing. I've been in love, too, with heaps of girls, two or three at a time generally, hating each other like so many Antipopes. I have a photograph album—you've seen it in my kit-bag—of all the girls I ever really loved, except a small collection which got burnt up in a hotel fire. I tried to be good, more or less, for each of them, except when they liked me bad, and even now I could be tolerably straight, with an occasional holiday to let off steam, if I had somebody who cared."

"I care," said Dandy moodily.

"Oh, you don't count. You're only a whiff and spit, like a Russian cigarette."

"But you have people—your family."

"Yes, I've got a brother in London, an awful snob, also a sister."

"La Mancha. I saw the name in some paper—the Duke of—Duke of Some, things—Spanish Ambassador to the Courts of St. James—but, Blackguard!"

"Well?"

"Is that your?"

"Yes, that's the snob."

"But from what I saw he must be an awful bad lot."

The Blackguard's eyes flashed ominously. "Drop that. If you talk bad about my people I'll have to chuck you into the river. Then you'll get wet."

"And you'll be sorry. Are all your people such swells?"

For answer the Blackguard drew from beneath his undershirt a crucifix which hung from a slender chain of gold about his neck.

"That's from one of my relations"—he kissed it, reverently—"La bella—God bless her—of Spain."

"Well, Blackguard, are you of the Blood Royal—a prince?"

"Not quite that—I suppose in English I should be Lord So-and-So, Regimental Number 1107, Constable La Mancha, my lord—ahem—You are charged with having, on the night of the 18th instant, been drunk, and assaulted the guard; also with having, on the night of the same instant, set the guard-room on fire; also with having on the same night, et cetera. Sounds well, eh, Dandy?"

The Corporal laughed. "We've been together four years now, and this is the first time you told me a word about yourself. We have lots of gentlemen in the ranks—I suppose I'm a gentleman myself if it comes to that, but—"

"A fact lot of me it is, eh?"

"That's so. What were you doing all those years in England?"

"Military attaché at the Legation until I had my last big row with the snob. You see, I met a woman at a Foreign Office reception—a regular cat—and found her out for a shoo-spy in the secret service of—let's say Russia. When the snob took to fooling around after her, I warned him, but he only thought I was jealous, and called me names. So we had a row, and I gave him a black eye, Eton style. Then I had to give him another to make it even. After that, of course, all was over between us. I took some keys off him, plundered the safe, told him what train I should catch, the name of the steamer—gave him every chance if he wanted a public scandal. He didn't want a scandal—might have cost him his job, so now he is the Ambassador and I'm the Blackguard. That's all."

"Poor Devil!"

"Yes, poor devil," raved the Blackguard cheerfully, as he stood up to stretch himself. "Anything fresh?"

"Nothing much." The Corporal was brushing some dead grass from his breeches. "There's a civilian at the officers' mess, came from Golden City by the 'Duchess' and rode over to Windermere. He's bound for the Throne Mine."

The Blackguard looked across the valley and saw one glimmering light far up on the mountain—the light of the Throne Mine.

"Well," he said, "I'm off to the canton."

"Don't be a fool! Come and play poker in my tent."

"What's the use?" The Blackguard put his hand on Dandy's shoulder.

"You're a good fellow. I know jolly well what you mean, but I've got a devil-frost tonight—and an appointment with Mother Parker."

Then the Corporal turned sorrowfully away.

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